

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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(Classification and Control Markings)

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1. COUNTRY: BOLIVIA
2. SUBJECT: Operation "Cynthia" (U)
3. ISC NUMBER:
4. DATE OF INFORMATION: 8-27 Jul 67
5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: 8-27 Jul; 1-11 Aug 67
6. EVALUATION: SOURCE B INFORMATION 2
7. SOURCE: Bolivian Army G-2 and G-3; Local Press
8. REPORT NUMBER: 2 808 0066 67
9. DATE OF REPORT: 11 August 1967
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11. REFERENCES: DIRM 18
12. ORIGINATOR: US Defense Attache, La Paz, Bolivia
13. PREPARED BY: ROBERT H. QUINN, CW-2, USA
Acting Army Attache
14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: E. T. NANCE, Colonel, USAF
Defense Attache
15. SUMMARY: (U) This is a report of the first organized operation conducted by the Bolivian Army in the current guerrilla situation. The operation was nicknamed "Operation Cynthia" and with troops of the 4th Division, headquarters in CAMIRI, they made a sweep of the area between NANCANUEZU and LAGUNILLAS in an effort to search out guerrillas, any encampments or any hidden caches during the period 8 - 27 July 1967.

REC'D CO-3 18 AUG 1967

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DIA DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

1. (C) On 8 July the Bolivian Army commenced their first organized attempt to search out the guerrilla forces between NANCANUEZU (1930S/6340W) and LAGUNILLAS (1936S/6341W) which is commonly known as the NANCANUEZU BASIN. This organized attempt was proposed by the Commander of the 4th Division, with headquarters in CAMIRI (2003S/6341W), Colonel Luis REQUE Teran. The operation was nicknamed "Operation Cynthia" and was conducted with troops of the 4th Division under the command of Colonel Humberto CALDERON and Major Ruben SANCHEZ. The breakdown consisted of 4 battalions as follows:

BATTALION 1

Company of 24th Rangers (MAP supported)

STRENGTH

90

16. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:

USSOUTHCOM, 1 cy w/Atch
USARSOUTHCOM, 1 cy w/Atch

17. DOWNGRADING DATA:

GP-3
DOWNGRADED AT 12-YEAR INTERVALS;
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18. ATTACHMENT DATA:

1 Atch
Map depicting unit
locations, 1 cy (C)

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FORM 1048, 1 AUG 60.
DA FORM 3820 (Rev 10-61).
AF FORM 112, JUL 61, WHICH MAY BE
USED UNTIL 1 JAN 63.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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ORIGINATOR

USDAO, La Paz, Bolivia

Company of 23d Max Toledo Regiment (MAP supported)
 Company of Escuela de Alasas
 Company B, 11th Inf Regt "Boqueron"

90

70

80

330

(Leave Blank)

BATTALION 2STRENGTH

Company Riberalta
 Company CITE No. 2 (MAP supported)
 Company I, 1st Inf Regt "Colorados" (MAP supported)
 Section of 2d Inf Regt

95

70

90

50

305RESERVESTRENGTH

Battalion "Ayala"
 Battalion "Amezaga"

160

400

See attached map for location of units.

2. (C) On 8 July three companies of Battalion 2, Company CITE 2 on the west side, Company Riberalta in the center and Company Colorados on the east side proceeded northward from the area near ITI (1936S/6348W) along the NANCAHUEZU Basin. On 9 July 1967 ~~the~~ first contact was made by the Company Colorados in area approximately 5 kilometers south of M. DORADO (1927S/6348W) with a guerrilla force estimated at 15 men, which resulted in one Bolivian soldier WIA. On 11 July 1967 this same company encountered the same guerrilla force in an area approximately 3 kilometers north of M. DORADO, resulting in no Bolivian casualties and one guerrilla KIA. This is first time that the Bolivian Armed Forces publicly announced the capturing of a dead guerrilla. The body was taken to LAGUNILLAS and 10 days later a photograph of the dead guerrilla was published in the local newspapers and advising that the body was that of a Moises GUEVARA reputedly to be one of the Bolivian leaders of the guerrilla force. According to Bolivian Army G-2, it was the body of a ex-miner who had joined the guerrillas, name not provided. After the first clash on 9 July Company Colorados located an encampment in the area of M. DORADO and found a piece of paper located inside an empty toothpaste tube with 11 names on it. The names were as follows: JOAQUIN, POLO, PEDRO, ALEJANDRO, MEDICO, TANIA, VICTOR, WALTER, BRAULO, NEGRO and GUEVARA. Meanwhile on 11 July the other two companies, Company Riberalta arrived to the area of CARAPARI 2149S/6346W) without sighting any guerrilla forces or any encampments and Company CITE 2 arrived at the area QUEBRADA IQUIRI (1926S/6350W) without any sightings either.

3. (C) COMMENT: This operation can be considered the first planned operation of the Bolivian Armed Forces since the outbreak of the guerrilla conflict in March. Even though they were not successful in capturing a guerrilla unit the experience obtained by the Bolivian troops has certainly enhanced their morale. For the first time, upon being fired at, they did not drop their weapons and run. Credit for the planned operation can be given to the commander of the 4th Division, Colonel Luis REQUE Teran. It was first reported that the operation was named after a daughter of Col REQUE Teran, however, it is understood that Cynthia is the name of a girl friend. Col REQUE Teran plans to utilize his troops in other plans of operations to keep the guerrillas in his area on the run and also in an attempt to locate arms caches that are presumed to be located in the NANCAHUEZU basin.

4. (U) FIELD COORDINATION: Emb

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REPLACES DA FORM 1046-1, 1 AUG 60
 AND DA FORM 606, 1 AUG 60 WHICH
 MAY BE USED UNTIL 1 JAN 63.

